



DOCKET NO: 251961US3DIV

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
TAKAAKI YANAGISAWA, ET AL. : EXAMINER: NGO, H. X.
SERIAL NO: 10/830,223 :
RCE FILED: JANUARY 11, 2006 : GROUP ART UNIT: 2852
FOR: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR :
REPLENISHING A DEVELOPING
DEVICE WITH TONER WHILE
SUPPRESSING TONER REMAINING

LETTER

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the courtesy of an interview extended by Examiner Ngo on August 4, 2006, during which the outstanding issues in the application were discussed.

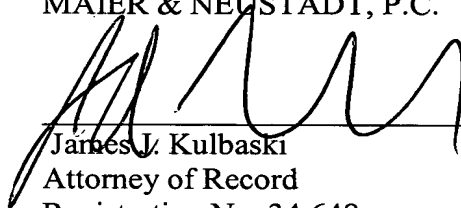
During the interview, the Examiner indicated that a double-patenting rejection would be issued with respect to U.S. Application No. 11/312,568. In response to this indication, we file herewith a Terminal Disclaimer.

With respect to the substance of the interview, the pending claims, as currently amended, recite a positional relationship between a filter and, for example, a mouth or second opening. To the contrary, it was explained how U.S. Patent 6,201,941 to Kasahara et al. does not disclose such a feature, and therefore, cannot anticipate the claims.

Application No. 10/830,223
Letter

Respectfully submitted,

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